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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A developing apparatus comprising:

a developer container which contains a first developer provided with a first charging polarity and a second developer provided with a second charging polarity opposite to the first charging polarity;

a developer bearing member which bears the first and the second developers;

layer forming means which forms a first layer substantially including the first developer, on the developer carrying member and forms a second layer including the first and the second developers, on the first layer; and

separating means which is provided on a downstream side of the layer forming means and on an upstream side of a developing part in a developer carrying and conveying direction of the developer bearing member and separates the second layer from the developer bearing member.

2. A developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the separating means allows passage of the first layer and regulates passage of the second layer.

3. A developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the separating means is a regulating

member which is pressed by the developer carrying member and regulates thickness of the first layer on the developer carrying member.

4. A developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a color of the first developer and a color of the second developer are different.

5. A developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when the first layer and the second layer are formed on the developer bearing member, a potential difference is provided between the layer forming means and the developer bearing member.

6. A developing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein, when the first layer and the second layer are formed on the developer bearing member, a polarity of a potential, which is obtained by deducting a potential of the developer carrying member from a potential of the layer forming means, is the same as the first charging polarity.

7. A developing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein a polarity of the potential difference is switched, whereby the layer forming means forms a third layer, which substantially includes the second developer, on the developer bearing member and forms

a fourth layer, which includes the first and the second developers, on the third layer.

8. A developing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the separating means separates the fourth layer from the developer bearing member.

9. A developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the layer forming means is a rotary member which is rotatable in contact with the developer bearing member, and the rotary member carries the first and the second developers on a surface thereof and rotates with a peripheral speed difference with respect to the surface of the developer bearing member.

10. A developing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the rotary member includes a surface layer of a foam having conductivity and can contain the first and the second developers in vacancies of the foam.

11. A developing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the separating means is a rigid body or an elastic body which is brought into abutment against the developer bearing member.

12. A developing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein, in the case in which it is assumed that a radius of the developer bearing member is R, a curvature radius of an inflected part formed in a developer layer thickness regulating part of the regulating member is r, and an NE length, which is a distance from a contacting part of the developer bearing member and the regulating member to the inflected part, is x,

$$\sqrt{(R+r)^2+(x+r)^2} - R \leq 550\,\mu m$$

is satisfied.

13. A developing apparatus according to claim 3 or 12,

wherein the curvature radius of the inflected part is 0.5 mm or less and a contacting pressure of the regulating member and the developer bearing member is 5 gf/cm or more and 100 gf/cm or less.

14. A developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the developing apparatus is detachably mountable to an image forming apparatus main body.

15. A developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the developing apparatus is provided in a process cartridge together with an image bearing

member on which a developer image is formed by the developing apparatus, and the process cartridge is detachably mountable to an image forming apparatus main body.

16. A developing apparatus comprising:

a developer container which contains a first developer provided with a first charging polarity and a second developer provided with a second charging polarity opposite to the first charging polarity;

a developer bearing member which bears the first and the second developers;

layer forming means which forms a first layer, which substantially includes the first developer, on the developer bearing member and forms a second layer, which includes the first and the second developers, on the first layer; and

a regulating member which is provided on a downstream side of the layer forming means and on an upstream side of a developing position in a developer bearing and conveying direction of the developer bearing member and regulates thickness of a layer of a developer on the developer carrying member, the regulating member including an inflected part in a developer regulating part,

wherein a curvature radius of the inflected part is 0.5 mm or less, and a contacting pressure of the

regulating member and the developer bearing member is 5 gf/cm or more and 100 gf/cm or less.

17. A developing apparatus according to claim 16,

wherein a color of the first developer and a color of the second developer are different.

18. A developing apparatus according to claim 16,

wherein, when the first layer and the second layer are formed on the developer bearing member, a potential difference is provided between the layer forming means and the developer bearing member.

19. A developing apparatus according to claim 18,

wherein, when the first layer and the second layer are formed on the developer bearing member, a polarity of a potential, which is obtained by deducting a potential of the developer bearing member from a potential of the layer forming means, is the same as the first charging polarity.

20. A developing apparatus according to claim 18,

wherein a polarity of the potential difference

is switched, whereby the layer forming means forms a third layer, which substantially includes the second developer, on the developer bearing member and forms a fourth layer, which includes the first and the second developers, on the third layer.

21. A developing apparatus according to claim 16,

wherein the layer forming means is a rotary member which is rotatable in contact with the developer bearing member, and the rotary member carries the first and the second developers on a surface thereof and rotates with a peripheral speed difference with respect to the surface of the developer bearing member.

22. A developing apparatus according to claim 21,

wherein the rotary member includes a surface layer of a foam having conductivity and can contain the first and the second developers in vacancies of the foam.

23. A developing apparatus according to claim 16,

wherein the regulating means is a rigid body or an elastic body which is brought into abutment

against the developer bearing member.

24. A developing apparatus according to claim 16,

wherein, in the case in which it is assumed that a radius of the developer bearing member is R, a curvature radius of the inflected part is r, and an NE length, which is a distance from a contacting part of the developer bearing member and the regulating member to the inflected part, is x,

$$\sqrt{(R+r)^2+(x+r)^2}-R \leq 550\,\mu m$$

is satisfied.

25. A developing apparatus according to claim 16,

wherein the developing apparatus is detachably mountable to an image forming apparatus main body.

26. A developing apparatus according to claim 16,

wherein the developing apparatus is provided in a process cartridge together with an image bearing member on which a developer image is formed by the developing apparatus, and the process cartridge is detachably mountable to an image forming apparatus main body.

27. An image forming apparatus comprising:

a plurality of developers, each of the plurality of developers comprising:

a developer container which contains a first developer of a first color provided with a first charging polarity and a second developer of a second color provided with a second charging polarity opposite to the first charging polarity;

a developer bearing member which bears the first and the second developers;

layer forming means which forms a first layer, which substantially includes the first developer, on the developer carrying member and forms a second layer, which includes the first and the second developers, on the first layer; and

separating means which is provided on a downstream side of the layer forming means and on an upstream side of a developing part in a developer carrying and conveying direction of the developer carrying member and separates the second layer from the developer carrying member.

28. An image forming apparatus according to claim 27,

wherein a developer image of four colors is formed on a member to have an image transferred thereon using the plurality of developing apparatuses.

29. An image forming apparatus according to claim 27,

wherein the image forming apparatus includes a plurality of image bearing members corresponding to the plurality of developing apparatuses, two kinds of developer images of different colors are formed on any one of the plurality of image bearing members by any one of the plurality of developing apparatuses, two kinds of developer images of different colors are formed on another of the plurality of image bearing members by another of the plurality of developing apparatuses, and a developer image of four colors is formed on the member to have an image transferred thereon.

30. An image forming apparatus according to claim 28 or 29,

wherein the image forming apparatus includes the member to have an image transferred thereon, which is an intermediate transferring member, and the image forming apparatus further includes charging means which adjusts a charging polarity of a developer on the intermediate transferring member.

31. An image forming apparatus according to claim 30,

wherein the charging means also functions as

transferring means which transfers a developer image from the intermediate transferring member onto a recording material.